

1 THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY  
2 OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

3

4 1. An electronic bill processing system for coordinating the submission and processing of an  
5 electronic bill corresponding to a provider of insurance services, the system comprising;  
6       a) a provider interface;  
7       b) an integrated database coupled to the provider interface for storing bill information  
8       pertaining to the electronic bill;  
9       c) a workflow engine coupled to the integrated database for coordinating the processing  
10      of the electronic bill and for updating the bill information in response to the bill  
11      processing; and  
12      d) a management system coupled to the integrated database for monitoring the contents  
13      of the integrated database accessible by the provider interface;  
14      wherein the provider can coordinate real-time retrieval of submission and status details  
15      for bill information contained in the integrated database.

16

17 2. The system according to claim 1 further comprising a search function for accessing the  
18 integrated database through the provider interface, the search function having a number of search  
19 options for retrieving the bill information.

20

21 3. A method for coordinating the submission and processing of a bill according to predictive  
22 payment data of a plan, the method comprising the steps of:  
23       a) storing the predictive payment data corresponding to the plan in a database coupled to  
24       an adjudication engine;  
25       b) inserting a predictive payment parameter into a rule set of the adjudication engine for  
26       eventual adjudication of the predictive payment data at a predefined interval, the  
27       predictive payment parameter corresponding to a content of the plan;  
28       c) triggering a creation of the electronic bill at the predefined interval according to the  
29       predictive payment parameter;

- 1       d) retrieving the predictive payment data from the database and providing the predictive
- 2       payment data to the adjudication engine;
- 3       e) updating the predictive payment parameter for recognising the submission of the
- 4       payment data to the adjudication engine; and
- 5       f) generating the bill as defined by the predictive payment data of the plan once
- 6       adjudicated.

7

8       4. The method according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of service codes is included with  
9       the predictive payment parameter.

10

11      5. A system for coordinating the submission and processing of a bill according to predictive  
12       payment data of a plan, the system comprising:

- 13       a) a provider interface;
- 14       b) an integrated database for receiving a predictive payment plan submitted from the  
15       provider interface;
- 16       c) a predictive payment request of the plan storable in the database, the request including  
17       a plurality of predictive payment parameters;
- 18       d) an adjudication engine coupled to the integrated database; and
- 19       e) an insertion function for inserting the predictive payment parameters, when stored in  
20       the database, into an adjudication rule set of the adjudication engine, the adjudication rule  
21       set for eventual adjudication of the predictive payment data;  
22       wherein adjudication of the predictive payment data results in the generation of the bill.

23

24      6. The system according to claim 5 further comprising a workflow engine for coordinating the  
25       insertion of the predictive payment parameters into the adjudication rule set.

26

27

28